



**Ministry of Defence**  
Defence Business Services  
Secretariat Team  
Room 6303  
Norcross  
Blackpool  
Lancashire  
FY5 3WP

Ref: FOI2015/04124

[REDACTED]  
email: [REDACTED]

21<sup>st</sup> May 2015

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 29 April to Defence Statistics and follow-up clarification on 30 April, requesting the following information:

*"I wonder if you have any statistics on what percentage of military personnel are currently serving married unaccompanied please?"*

*I mean married / civil partnered personnel who have been posted overseas or in the UK 'unaccompanied'.*

*Could I have 01 Jan to 2005 – 31 Dec 2014, but also have the numbers broken down by year, please?"*

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm some of the information in scope of your request is held in the table below.

The following information has been extracted for the last day of each year from 2006 to 2014 and contains both married/civil partnered figures.

Unfortunately, we are unable to provide the 2005 figures, as the Data Preservation Repository system used prior to the Joint Personnel Administration (JPA) system went live in April 2006, did not categorise whether Service personnel were accompanied or unaccompanied nor did it categorise whether they were married or civil partnered.

Year	Service Personnel Count*	Service Personnel Unaccompanied*	Service Personnel Unaccompanied Percentage (%)
2006	94,910	77,000	81.13%
2007	101,295	61,320	60.54%
2008	99,490	50,745	51.01%
2009	100,225	45,280	45.18%

2010	100,400	39,470	39.31%
2011	98,965	34,075	34.43%
2012	94,190	29,770	31.61%
2013	89,310	26,280	29.43%
2014	86,655	24,375	28.13%

\*In line with Defence statistics rounding policy, all figures have been rounded to the nearest 5.

Finally, the 2006 figures cannot be validated as some of the Armed Forces, such as the Army, Royal Navy Reserves and the Army Reserves were not placed on the JPA system (where the information has been sourced from), until April 2007.

If you are not satisfied with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail [CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk](mailto:CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk)). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <https://ico.org.uk/>.

Yours sincerely,




A/Head of Secretariat